

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, after the title of the invention, insert the following:

-- This application claims priority based on an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty, PCT/EP99/10141, filed on December 20, 1999, and Swiss Patent Application No. 2557/98, filed on December 24, 1998. --

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 9 as follows:

-- Another embodiment of the document 1 in card form (see Figure 3) has a magnetic strip 16 on the ~~substrate 7~~ substrate 6. The check number 9 (not shown in Figure 3, but shown in Figure 2) and the code 11 (not shown in Figure 3, but shown in Figure 2), upon activation of the document 1, are recorded in magnetically encoded form in the storage field 4 or in the encoding field 5 on the magnetic strip 16. The storage field 4 has at least the magnetically readable check number 9 after activation in the storage field 4. --

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 9 as follows:

-- In an embodiment of the document 1, the optical marking 3 and the check number 9 is produced with diffraction structures and disposed on the same information carrier 17. The advantage of this embodiment is that the operation of reading off the identification 7 and the check number 9 and the operation of writing to the information carrier 17 are effected with a single optical reader 26 (Figures 5 and 6) in accordance with EO 0 718 795 A1. The expensive security feature 8 (Figure 1) can be omitted. --